

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 142-151 are pending in this application. Claims 142-150 are allowed.

Claim 151 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,001,977 ("Chang et al."). The Examiner begins his analysis by construing the preamble of claim 151 as not being a limitation of the claim and being of no significance because it is an intrinsic result of the body of claim 151. Disregarding the preamble of claim 151, the Examiner concludes that Chang et al. discloses all of the steps of the body of claim 151.

Applicants traverse the rejection. Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C § 120 to Serial No. 06/558,109, filed **December 5, 1983**. All of the steps of the body of claim 151 are disclosed in the present specification and in the applications on which applicants rely for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120, for example, as follows (listed by page:line number):

	<u>06/771,248</u>	<u>07/999,410</u>	<u>06/706,562</u>	<u>06/558,109</u>
Step (a)	14:17-24	12:15-22	8:2-4	5:5-6
Step (b)	14:17-24	12:15-22	8:5	5:8
Step (c)	14:26-27	12:24-25	8:6-9	5:8-11
Step (d)	14:27	12:25	8:14-15	5:17-18

The earliest claimed priority date of Chang is August 22, 1984. Consequently, Chang is not effective prior art with respect to the steps of the body of claim 151. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. In the event that the Examiner disagrees, he is invited to call the undersigned to discuss any outstanding issues remaining in this application in order to expedite prosecution.

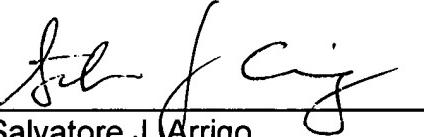
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 21, 2004

By: _____



Salvatore J. Arrigo
Registration No. 46,063
Telephone: 202-408-4160
Facsimile: 202-408-4400
E-mail: arrigos@finnegan.com